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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6946

BILL NUMBER: HB 1688

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 9, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Academic Programs in State Institutions.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Oxley

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires that educational programs in department of correction facilities and the Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home be: (1) consistent with the state's academic standards for primary and secondary students; and (2) offered in a manner that allows a student who successfully completes the state's requirements for graduation to receive a diploma. The bill requires that certain services provided to clients of the Silvercrest Children's Development Center be provided by personnel who are certified by the Professional Standards Board.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: **Department of Correction-** The Department of Correction would be required to expand existing education programs to be consistent with Indiana's Academic Standards. The ability to comply with the requirements in the bill would depend on the available resources within the Department's existing budget.

The bill would remove a provision which currently allows Department facilities to contract with public and private educational agencies. Department facilities could lose flexibility in regard to the existing education programs provided by outside educational agencies. Therefore, the Department would be required to conduct all education for confined offenders with Department staff. (However, as under current law, the Department would still be able to consult with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and with the Department of Workforce Development to implement education programs.)

As of January, 2005, there were 155 certified full-time teachers employed by the Department to conduct

education programs for confined adult offenders. There were 113 certified full-time teachers in juvenile facilities. There were also 19 part-time certified teachers in Department facilities. In addition, the Department contracts with various universities to provide certain education services such as vocational and special education. The number of incarcerated individuals who participate in education programs through the Department total 4,438 adult offenders in academic programs and 1,786 in adult vocational programs. There were a total of 1,245 juveniles in academic or vocational programs. The Department has a current wait list of about 845 adult offenders for adult basic education/GED and 2,335 adult offenders for vocational education.

The Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home- The Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home would not experience any increase in administrative expenses to meet the requirements of this bill. The Home is currently required to be accredited by the State. The Home's vocational education is currently conducted in accordance with Indiana Academic Standards.

Silvercrest Children's Development Center- Under the bill, the Center would be required to provide personnel that are certified by the Professional Standards Board (PSB.) The Center was appropriated \$6.77 M in personal services and \$660,595 in other operating expense for FY2005. The Center reverted \$379,691 back to the state General Fund at the end of FY 2004. As of December 6, 2004, Silvercrest had 145 full-time employees which included about 12 teachers on staff. Silvercrest has received limited licenses in the past from the PSB. The current number of limited licenses issued is unknown, but will be provided when the information is available.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: School corporations would no longer be able to enter into contracts with Department facilities to provide education programs. Since school corporations do not currently include Department facility students in their Average Daily Membership (ADM) counts, school corporations would not experience decreases in school formula revenue.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction facilities, Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home; Silvercrest Children's Development Center.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Kathy Lisby, Director of Planning and Research, Indiana Department of Correction; State Budget Agency; State of Indiana *HRM Detail Staffing Report Position and Employee Totals, 12/06/04*; Professional Standards Board.

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